

convertible into a commercially available format; and distilling the intermediate data structure for redisplay by converting the intermediate data structure into a format usable for reflow on an arbitrarily sized display, wherein the intermediate data structure is automatically adaptable at the time of display to constraints of any display device or circumstance of viewing. Claim 16 recites similar features. The applied references cannot reasonably be considered to have suggested such combinations of features.

Thacker is directed to systems and methods for dynamic pagination on a given device. In such a device, the parameters of, for example, a display device 406, are preset. Therefore, one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to modify any method or system disclosed in Thacker to include all of the features of claims 1 and 16, the subject matter of which is directed to converting a document in a page-image format into a form suitable for an arbitrarily sized display. To modify the Thacker device to include features related to reflow on an arbitrarily sized display would unnecessarily complicate the Thacker method. In other words, if Thacker were modified to first receive a document in a page-image format, the constraints of the display device would be known prior to any deconstructing or synthesizing. As such, it would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to deconstruct and/or synthesize the document in a page-image format in the manner recited in claims 1 and 16, only to then adapt it to a display that was already known. Similarly, one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to modify the Thacker device to include a deconstructing circuit, synthesizing circuit and distilling circuit that perform the variously functions with respect to data as the parameters of the display device are already known.

The Office Action concedes that Thacker fails to disclose a number of features recited in the independent claims including deconstructing a document in a page image format into a set of segmented image elements, and synthesizing the deconstructed document into an

intermediate data structure. The Office Action relies on Balabonavic to remedy these shortfalls. The Office Action asserts that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Thacker to include these features "because of all of the reasons found in Thacker including optimizing an electronic version of a paper document for display in different devices." However, the alleged "reasons" found in Thacker do not support the asserted modification. Rather, the referenced portion of Thacker deals with the benefits of segmenting a document into portions, such as chapters of a book, where only one segment at a time has to be paginated on-the-fly. Thus, only the currently desired page of the segment needs to be rendered for display. This would not have motivated one of ordinary skill in the art to include features such as deconstructing a document in a page image format into a set of segmented image elements, and synthesizing the deconstructed document into an intermediate data structure, as recited in claim 1.

Likewise, the statement in Thacker that, by paginating pages dynamically, electronic books can "look quite good" on devices such as palm-sized personal computers to larger monitors also fails to provide a reasonable motivation to include deconstructing a document in a page image format into a set of segmented image elements, and synthesizing the deconstructed document into an intermediate data structure, in the Thacker device or method.

As such, the Office Action fails to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness of the alleged combination of Thacker and Balabonavic at least because one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to combine these references in the manner suggested.

Additionally, Thacker fails to disclose features relied upon by the Office Action. The Office Action asserts that Thacker discloses "dividing a document." However, in Thacker, the document 100 is in a format where text may be poured into a series of slots of a page. Thacker teaches segmenting a document, such as into chapters or articles, to provide for quicker dynamic pagination, in that the entire electronic book does not have to be paginated

dynamically *a priori*, but only the current segment of interest (see, e.g., col. 8, lines 41-47 of Thacker). Thacker is not directed to a method of converting a document in a page-image format. The Office Action asserts that Thacker discloses distilling the intermediate data structure for redisplay by converting the intermediate data structure into a format usable for reflow on an arbitrarily sized display, wherein the intermediate data structure is automatically adaptable at the time of display to constraints of any display device or circumstance of viewing. However, as conceded by the Office Action, Thacker does not disclose synthesizing a deconstructed document into an intermediate data structure. Therefore, it is improper for the Office Action to rely on Thacker as disclosing the specific features of the recited intermediate date structure.

Additionally, Thacker cannot reasonably be considered to disclose distilling an intermediate data structure for redisplay by converting the intermediate data structure into a format usable for reflow on an arbitrarily sized display, as recited in claim 1. Thacker does not discuss converting an intermediate data structure into a format usable for reflow on an arbitrarily sized display. The method of Thacker assumes a current position in the text defined by the paginatable segment, each of a number of pages has a predetermined number of slots, and predetermined page layouts (see, col. 8, lines 63 - col. 9, line 5, and claim 1 of Thacker).

For at least the above reasons, the applied references cannot reasonably be considered to have suggested the combinations of features positively recited in independent claims 1 and 16. Additionally, claims 3-13 and 18-28 also would not have been reasonably been suggested by the applied references for at least the respective dependence of these claims, directly or indirectly, on an allowable base claim, as well as for the separately patentable subject matter of these claims recites.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1, 3-13, 16 and 18-28 are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1, 3-13, 16 and 18-28 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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